

Abstract

A technique is disclosed that provides a host computing device user with convenient access to a network. In the illustrative embodiment of the present invention, a telecommunications station stores device driver files. The host computing device installs a device driver. Once properly configured, the host computing device controls the station, through the device driver, to transmit data blocks into a shared-communications medium. The host computing device also receives a first portion of network-specific data (*e.g.*, network configuration information, security configuration information, *etc.*) that enables the host computing device to properly configure itself to communicate via the network of interest.